

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL SYDNEY
INFO CINCPAC 0014
AMCONSUL AUCKLAND BY POUCH
AMCONSUL BRISBANE BY POUCH
AMCONSUL PERTH BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 080123

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN, AS,NZ, PP, FJ

SUBJ: STATUS REPORT: AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND,
PACIFIC ISLANDS

1. AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE NORRISH ARRIVES. NEW ZEALAND
AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE AND MRS. MERWYN NORRISH ARRIVED IN
WASHINGTON MARCH 22. WE HAVE SCHEDULED A COURTESY CALL ON
THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE AMBASSADOR ON MARCH 30. THE
WHITE HOUSE HAS INFORMED US THAT THE PRESENTATION OF HIS
CREDENTIALS TO THE PRESIDENT IS SET FOR APRIL 7 AT 11 AM.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

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2. NON-FAT DRY MILK. WE RECEIVED AN AIDE-MEMOIRE FROM
THE NEW ZEALAND EMBASSY MARCH 23 PROTESTING THE PROPOSED
SALE OF NONFAT DRY MILK TO MEXICO BY THE USDA'S COMMODITY
CREDIT CORPORATION. THE PRECEDENTIAL ASPECTS -- PLUS THE
LACK OF PRIOR CONSULTATIONS -- WERE THE CHIEF CAUSES OF
CONCERN. ALTHOUGH EB HAS ACTION, BOTH EA/ANP AND EA/EP

HAVE WEIGHED IN ON THE MATTER IN A MEETING WITH EB/ORF/OFP
DIRECTOR JOHN FERCH. FERCH HAS CALLED IN THE NEW
ZEALANDERS (AS WELL AS THE CANADIANS AND FRENCH) FOR
CONSULTATIONS MARCH 29. EA/ANP PLANS TO ATTEND. HOWEVER,
INSPIRE OF THE HAND HOLDING, THE MEXICAN SALE WILL ALMOST
CERTAINLY GO FORWARD SINCE IT HAS THE PERSONAL BLESSING OF
SECRETARY BERGLAND. (CONFIDENTIAL)

3. NAURU HONORARY CONSUL GENERAL CALLS AT DEPARTMENT.
FORMER DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR OFFICIAL AND CURRENTLY
HONORARY CONSUL GENERAL OF NAURU, CARLTON SKINNER WAS IN
THE DEPARTMENT FROM SAN FRANCISCO MARCH 27. HE HELD
FORTH MOST INFORMATIVELY IN DISCUSSIONS ON MATTERS SOUTH
PACIFIC WITH MESSRS. WAJDA, GALLAGHER AND HURWITZ AND
LATER IN A CALL ON DICK HOLBROOKE. (UNCLASSIFIED)

4. CHIP AND CARON CARTER VISIT. THE DATES FOR CHIP AND
CARON CARTER'S VISIT TO AUSTRALIA WILL BE MAY 6-15.
THEY HAD ORIGINALLY HOPED TO SPEND TWELVE DAYS IN
THE COUNTRY, BUT DECIDED THAT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE WHEN
THEY DISCOVERED IT WOULD TAKE A TOTAL OF FOUR DAYS FOR
THE ROUND TRIP BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND SYDNEY. WE HAVE
ASKED EMBASSY CANBERRA FOR A DRAFT SCHEDULE.
(LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

COOPER

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NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED AUCKLAND, BRISBANE AND PERTH.

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NNN

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